



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

TRANSMISSION BUSINESS LINE

April 16, 2003

In reply refer to: T-DITT-2

To: People Interested in the Big Eddy-Midway Transmission Line Rebuild Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to rebuild four miles of the Big Eddy-Midway 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Klickitat and Yakima Counties, Wash. by adding some intermediate supports along this line. This letter briefly describes the project, construction schedule, and explains where to call if you have questions.

The proposed project would replace most of the steel lattice towers and all the wood pole structures between mile 51 and 56 (about three miles North of Bickleton, Wash.) on the Big Eddy-Midway transmission line. In the last ten years, there were 13 tower failures due to ice buildup. Stronger steel lattice structures of about the same height as existing structures will be constructed. Disturbance at each of the new lattice tower sites will be about one-quarter acre.

In addition, BPA has determined this transmission line needs to be upgraded to a higher operating temperature. A higher operating temperature results in the conductor (wire) sagging closer to the ground. To correct any ground to conductor clearance issues, intermediate wood pole structures, average approximately 80 feet in height will be installed in nine locations to provide mid-span support to the line. In one location, the existing ground elevation will be leveled and lowered about four feet to correct the clearance problem. BPA has an established access road parallel to the existing line and any new structures will require a new short spur road.

Over the next several weeks you may see BPA staff or contractors hired by BPA working within the substation or near the existing line to prepare for construction activities. BPA will continue to work one-on-one with property owners to minimize construction impacts.

If you have questions about this project or would like additional project information, please call our toll-free line 1-888-276-7790 or email me at gobeck@bpa.gov. You may also get project information and access documents on our website at: www.transmission.bpa.gov/projects.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gary O. Beck 11/16/03

Gary Beck
Project Manager